IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)
oshihide KUROKI <u>et</u> <u>al</u> .) Examiner Not yet assigned
Application Number: 10/694,745) Group Art Unit 2833
Filed: October 29, 2003) Confirmation No. 5424
For: ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants are submitting herewith copies of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified) for consideration and to be made of record by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) in the above-captioned patent application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider these references and that the Examiner indicate that the enclosed reference have been considered in this application by returning a copy of the form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609.

The European Patent Office (EPO) cited the enclosed references in a European Search Report dated February 23, 2004, for a counterpart application, and the EPO has indicated on the enclosed copy the relevance of each reference of the Search Report.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), Applicants believe that this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted prior to issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fees are believed due as a result of this submission. However, in

the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicants and those determined by the PTO, please charge any such variance to undersigned's Deposit Account No. 02-0375.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: April 6, 2004

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JBA/dh

Enclosures

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